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#1 FREE DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

EAGLES RELEASE ASOMUGHA {page 24}

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PHILADELPHIA
Wednesday, March 13, 2013

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RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Ill communication

- Comcast is spending big bucks, say several advocacy groups, to block the bill for paid sick leave
- The company spent $100K last year lobbying City Council to vote against the bill
- Activists will deliver a petition to City Hall today {page 02}

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music

Jim James digs for gold in Austin at SXSW

- The My Morning Jacket frontman talks Texas festival and new solo album {pages 12-13}

style

Marc Jacobs on Diet Coke and dresses

- Designer loves attention, but is only now overcoming his shyness with press {pages 18-19}

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In the news

11

Philadelphia ranks 11th among U.S. cities with the most Energy Star-certified buildings, according to an annual list released by the Environmental Protection Agency. That's up four spots from last year. Philly now has 174 Energy Star-certified properties that save the city $26.7 million in energy costs each year. METRO

Local tweet

"Hey maybe the US elections should be like the pope. Have the first round and if we all don't like the candidate, blow smoke and try again"

PHILADELPHIA "RECOVERING CATHOLIC" @PROUDLIBERALMOM, ON YESTERDAY'S UNEVENTFUL CONCLAVE

In the news

Pups from Vick's kennels celebrate five free years

Rescued pups from Michael Vick's Atlanta dog-fighting operation gathered at their rehabilitation center Monday to celebrate five years of freedom.

Six of the 22 dogs returned to the Kanab, Utah-based Best Friends Animal Society, which rehabbed the dogs back to health.

The dogs were joined by their adopted families. Vick canceled yesterday's scheduled signings of his book, "Finally Free," due to death threats and protests against a New Jersey book store. Appearances were scheduled in Exton, some New Jersey outlets and in Atlanta. METRO

Joe Biden to deliver Penn's spring address

Vice President Joe Biden will deliver the University of Pennsylvania's spring commencement address, according to the college's website. Biden, who will receive an honorary doctor of laws from the university, will address the student body at graduation on May 13.

Biden has two children who are University of Pennsylvania graduates.

One of his grandchildren is a current Penn student. METRO

Comcast spending hefty sum to block bill for paid sick leave

- Advocacy groups question if Comcast cares
- Bill is expected to go up for vote on Thursday

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Advocates protest a March 5 committee hearing on paid sick leave.

A coalition of community groups advocating for a City Council bill that would extend paid sick leave to most Philadelphia workers claims Comcast is trying to block the bill.

"Comcast gets tens of millions in tax breaks from the city and state claiming it cares about local jobs," said Hannah Sassaman of the Media Mobilizing Project, one of the groups involved.

"But if Comcast cares about its consumers, it should allow them to have ... paid days off."

During fiscal year 2012, Comcast spent more than $108,400 lobbying City Council to vote against the bill, which would require companies with five or more employees to grant at least an hour of paid sick time for every 40 hours worked, according to filings with the city Board of Ethics.

Signing on to rally

Activists will gather at City Hall today to hand-deliver a petition with more than 60,000 signatures — more than 14,000 of them from self-identified Comcast customers — urging Council members to vote "yes."

The move comes in advance of tomorrow's City Council session, when the bill is expected to go up for a vote.

"[Today's] delivery is about taking 60,000 voices — many of them from Philadelphia and Pennsylvania — and telling council to listen to them, not big business, when comes to enacting legislation," Bellesorte said.

"[Lobbyists are] extremely expensive to get. They're not going to work for minimum wage, and they're certainly going to demand paid sick days."

KAYTEE RIEK, SUMOFUS.ORG

"Lobbyists' activities depend on the organization," said Marianne Bellesorte of advocacy group PathWays PA, a registered lobbyist for PathWays.

Though Comcast's exact activities are not itemized in the Board of Ethics filings, it spent $32,759 during the fourth quarter of fiscal year '12 alone opposing the bill through "direct communications" to council members.

"My understanding is that 'direct communications' means an employee of the corporation or a lobbyist goes to council, speaks directly with legislators or aides and says 'this is why we believe X, Y or Z legislation is not good for us,'" Sassaman said.

Alex Wigglesworth
awigglesworth@metro.us

The numbers

15M

Comcast receives $15 million in job creation subsidies from the city each year.

182K

Philadelphia workers lack paid sick days. About 123,900 of those workers have no paid leave benefits of any kind, according to a study from the Institute for Women's Policy Research.

25%

Less than a quarter of Philadelphia food workers are estimated to have earned sick days.

80%

Up to 80 percent of outbreaks of contagious stomach bug norovirus can be traced back to sick food workers, according to a CDC study.

Veteran cop arrested on DUI after accident

A 23-year-old veteran of the Philadelphia Police department was arrested for driving under the influence Monday night following a car accident, police said.

Joseph Kelly, 53, was involved in an accident at the 4900 block of Woodland Avenue around 9 p.m., according to a news release. He was off duty.

▶ Kelly

Kelly, who is a member of the traffic unit, was suspected to be drunk at the scene of the accident, which was confirmed after police later administered a Breathalyzer test. His blood alcohol content was not made available.

He will be assigned to administrative duty pending the outcome of the investigation, police said. He was hit with a slew of charges including DUI, criminal mischief, intimidation, harassment, terroristic threats, simple assault and recklessly endangering another person.

His bail has been set at $25,000. His next court appearance is scheduled for March 28. METRO

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In the news

Search is on for serial bank robber

PHILADELPHIA. Investigators are looking for a man they believe is responsible for the robbery of six area banks.

The suspect struck Monday at the Republic Bank branch located at 1818 Market Street in the Rittenhouse area of Center City, according to police.

FBI

▶ The suspect at Republic Bank

Authorities said he handed a teller a threatening demand note around 12:20 p.m. and fled on foot with an undisclosed amount of cash.

The same man is believed to have robbed five other banks, including the same Center City Republic Bank branch on Feb. 19, investigators said.

He is described as a 6-foot black male in his late 30s or early 40s with a slender build and scruffy facial hair. He was last seen wearing a dark knit cap, a black coat, jeans, sunglasses and light brown boots.

The man is considered armed and dangerous. There may be an award for information leading to his arrest. METRO

Prostitution busts net 10 arrests

▶ He Eun Lee

▶ Lenee Taylor

▶ Mark Williams

▶ Maxine Purvis

Raids conducted at two alleged prostitution establishments led to 10 arrests, police said yesterday.

Members of the Citywide Vice unit March 2 raided the Twisters MC Club on Hoffman Street in Kingsessing.

Investigators said they received complaints the club owners were operating an illegal speakeasy, patrons were unruly and women were soliciting money for sex acts.

A surveillance investigation allegedly confirmed investigators' suspicions.

Police confiscated narcotics, 66 bottles of alcohol and $716.

Nine people were arrested — including one 17-year-old female — and charged with prostitution or drug-related offenses.

Some were also charged with conspiracy, unlawful liquor sales and manufacturing malt beverages without a license.

One woman was taken into custody Friday during an unrelated bust of alleged massage parlor Adams Apple Relaxation Spa in Chinatown.

Investigators said they received complaints the North Ninth Street establishment was doling out prostitution instead of massages.

He Eun Lee, 52, allegedly offered to perform sex acts on a decoy officer for money. She was arrested and charged with promoting prostitution.

Authorities said they confiscated massage parlor towels, lotions, condoms, TV monitors, $243, a credit card machine and more.

Lee is currently free on 10 percent of $2,000 bail.

Alex Wigglesworth
awigglesworth@metro.us

▶ Nicola Taylor

▶ Shante Williams

▶ Terry Boyd

▶ Thyini Johnson

Celebrate Spring with Jefferson at the Navy Yard

To help keep you and your family healthy, Jefferson at the Navy Yard has scheduled the following **free** health education event.

Thursday, April 11, 2013

When Heartburn Does Deeper Damage

Anthony Infantolino, MD, AGAF, FACG, FACP
Director, Jefferson Barrett's Esophagus Treatment Center

Dr. Infantolino will explain how frequent heartburn, or GERD (gastroesophageal reflux disease), can damage and alter the lining of the esophagus, making it more prone to becoming cancerous. He will also review risk factors and discuss new treatment options.

Join us from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at:

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In the news

Police: Former dean arrested for sex with student

The former dean of students at Northeast High School turned himself in to police yesterday morning for allegedly having sex with a 17-year-old student, the district attorney's office announced.

Mark Preston Williams, 56, was charged with institutional sexual assault of a student, unlawful contact with a minor, corruption of a minor, endangering the welfare of a child and interference with the custody of a child. Williams has not yet been arraigned. The case is still under investigation. Anyone with information is urged to call detectives at 215-685-3251. No other details have been released at this time. METRO

Four 'drop-in' AVI sessions this week

Four Actual Value Initiative "drop-in" outreach sessions will be held this week to answer tax questions. Residents should bring their assessment files. METRO

Sessions this month

- **March 13,** 6 to 9 p.m., Shiloh Baptist Church
- **March 14,** 6 to 9 p.m., Archbishop Ryan H.S.
- **March 16,** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Chestnut Hill Library; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Francisville Rec. Center

Wanted: Paris Jackson as an Eagles cheerleader

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Paris Jackson

▶ Eagles cheerleaders

The Philadelphia Eagles' cheerleading director is hoping Michael Jackson's 14-year-old daughter wants to be a cheerleader when she grows up.

TMZ is reporting the team's cheer director Barbara Zaun said she watched Paris Jackson in action and liked her moves.

"We think Paris will make a great Eagle cheerleader," Zaun told TMZ. "We thought that she had a lot of poise, confidence and enthusiasm in her cheer performance. … Paris has that 'wow factor' that makes a great cheerleader."

Zaun told the gossip website that when Paris is ready, the Birds are willing to give her a shot.

"She is already very comfortable in the limelight, so we think she would definitely stand out and impress the judges," Zaun said. "We hope that she will try out for the team and be an Eagles cheerleader!"

Zaun did not immediately return calls for further comment. METRO

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While Paris is a member of her prep-school varsity squad, the Eagles require their beauties to be at least 18 years old and carry a high school diploma.

Rainy. Day

▶ Don't have an umbrella? A file folder will work just as well.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Commuters in Center City on Tuesday afternoon, including this busy cell-phone talker, battled the all-day rain and winds. At least temperatures weren't freezing; they stayed in the mid- to upper-50s. Bring an umbrella next time, guy. And a raincoat. METRO

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GOP unveils plan to cut down deficit

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Medicaid will suffer cuts under GOP plan.

A 10-year, $4.6 trillion balanced budget proposal unveiled by Republicans yesterday could either be shelved within weeks or help jump-start negotiations with President Barack Obama toward a major deficit-reduction deal.

House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan's plan — his latest version of the "Path to Prosperity" measure that has been rejected by Democrats previously — likely will be approved this month by the Republican-controlled House of Representatives.

The House Republican budget "ends cronyism; eliminates waste, fraud and abuse; and returns the federal government to its proper sphere of activity," Ryan said.

The blueprint would give Republicans the bragging rights of crafting a balanced-budget plan, even if it is based on pie-in-the-sky assumptions, such as the repeal of Obama's 2010 health-care overhaul.

Democrats will argue that the Ryan budget would undercut U.S. economic growth and that their alternative will more effectively create jobs in the near-term. **REUTERS**

Contrast to Democrats

With its cuts to social programs including Medicaid, which provides health care for the poor and some people with disabilities, the measure will stand in stark contrast to a competing 2014 budget outline that Senate Democrats will unveil this week.

Democrats plan

Democrats today will unveil a budget blueprint that attempts to slice federal deficits by $1.85 trillion over 10 years through an equal mix of spending cuts and tax increases on the rich.

- The fiscal plan, which will be debated by the Senate Budget Committee this week, is the Democrats' answer to a Republican budget set forth in the House of Representatives that claims to reach balance in 10 years through deep cuts to domestic programs and without any tax increases beyond those approved on Jan. 1.
- The plan authored by the Senate Budget Committee's Democratic chairwoman, Patty Murray, aims to speed jobs growth, calling for $100 billion in new spending on crumbling roads and bridges and worker training.
- It would also fully replace automatic spending cuts with savings elsewhere, the source said, preventing the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs. **REUTERS**

In the news

Obama budget likely out during week of April 8

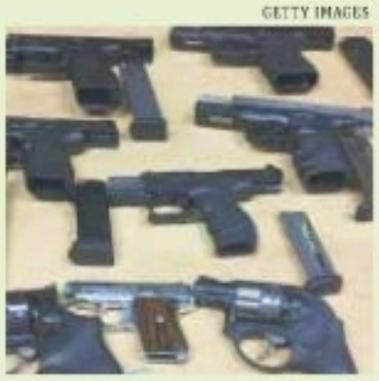
WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama is likely to issue his budget proposal the week of April 8, White House spokesman Jay Carney said yesterday.

The president usually releases a budget proposal outlining how he would pay for his policy priorities in early February. **REUTERS**

Senate panel OKs background checks for guns

WASHINGTON. A divided Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday endorsed President Barack Obama's call to require criminal background checks for all gun buyers, yet it remained uncertain if the measure would become law.

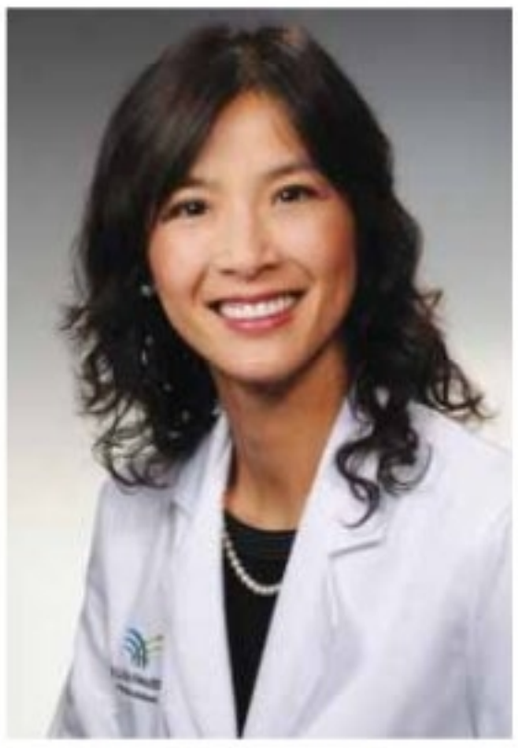
GETTY IMAGES



On a party-line vote of 10-8, the Democratic-led panel sent the measure to the full Senate, where it faces a possible procedural roadblock that could kill it.

Federally registered firearm dealers are now required to run background checks on buyers. But about 40 percent of sales are made by private dealers who do not have such an obligation. **REUTERS**

Your Neighborhood Heart Doctor



Kar-Lai Wong, MD, attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. She is a member of the Lankenau Heart Group of Main Line Health. Dr. Wong has been practicing medicine for more than 15 years, serving the local Philadelphia community.

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Ten years since Iraq invasion

▶ A tank from the United States Marine Task Force Tarawa sets up position in front of a painting of Saddam Hussein in the southern Iraqi city of Nasiriyah in March 2003.

GETTY IMAGES

"The people of the United States and our friends and allies will not live at the mercy of an outlaw regime that threatens the peace with weapons of mass murder. We will meet that threat now," President George W. Bush said in a somber televised address on March 19, 2003.

Alejandro Villatoro, then a 20-year-old from Chicago, was one of those soldiers charged with meeting that threat. "I went in ready to kill for the sake of freedom," he said. "But the problems started almost right away. And when we invaded, we started hearing reports that there were no WMDs and no al Qaeda link."

But by the time Bush landed on an aircraft carrier in front of a banner announcing "Mission Accomplished," it was clear that the Iraq War had been launched on shaky grounds. "The initial goal, regime, change, was quickly and comprehensively achieved," notes Michael Codner, director of the Military Sciences Department at a London military think tank. "The problem was the occupation phase, which is very different from expelling Iraq from Kuwait. The Bush administration's assumption that Iraqis were eager to get rid of Saddam Hussein and would welcome the occupation was bizarre."

4.5K

The war took the lives of almost 4,500 U.S. soldiers.

Since then, the Iraq War has joined Vietnam as the most controversial in U.S. history. No WMDs have been found, but the war has taken the lives of almost 4,500 U.S. soldiers, some 350 soldiers from other coalition countries and around 110,000 Iraqis. Then there's the financial cost to U.S. taxpayers: $1 trillion and counting.

Still, by 2011 a majority of Americans said the U.S. had "mostly succeeded" in reaching its goals in Iraq.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan kills five Americans

Five U.S. military personnel were killed in a helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan, the Pentagon said yesterday, although there were no immediate details about the cause of the crash.

The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan said the crash occurred on Monday. It happened on the same day that two U.S. troops and five Afghan police and soldiers were killed by a person in an Afghan military uniform in the restive east of the country.

"The cause of the crash is under investigation; however, initial reporting indicates there was no enemy activity in the area at the time of the incident," ISAF said in a statement.

The Pentagon said all five killed in the crash were Americans. REUTERS

Recent copter crashes

Helicopter crashes are not uncommon in Afghanistan, and the Taliban and others often claim to have shot them down.

Last August, 11 people, including seven U.S. soldiers, were killed when a Black Hawk helicopter crashed in southern Afghanistan.

The worst such incident was in August 2011, when the Taliban shot down a CH-47 Chinook transport helicopter, killing all 38 people on board, including 25 U.S. special operations troops.

Cardinals start search for new pope amid troubles in the church

ANDREAS SOLARO.ANDREAS SOLARO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ U.S. representatives hold placards asking for an American pope as they wait for the results from the conclave.

Thick black smoke billowed into the night sky from the Sistine Chapel's chimney yesterday, signaling an inconclusive first vote in the conclave to elect a new pope at a time of strife and scandal for the Roman Catholic Church.

Thousands of faithful huddled in St. Peter's Square to watch the smoke pour out of the narrow flue in the rain-laden gloom following a day rich in ritual and pageantry.

After praying for divine guidance, the red-hatted cardinals took a solemn vow, in Latin, never to divulge any details of their deliberations.

They then secluded themselves behind the chapel's heavy wooden doors.

No conclave in the modern era has chosen a pope on its first day, and some cardinals speculated this week that it might take four or five days to pick the man to replace Pope Benedict, who unexpectedly abdicated last month.

The so-called "Princes of the Church" spent the night in a Vatican hotel before returning to the frescoed Sistine Chapel today to continue their votes, with two rounds set for the morning and two for the afternoon.

In the meantime, their only communication with the outside world will be smoke from the Chapel chimney — black when voting sessions end with no result and white when a pontiff is elected.

Whoever becomes the 266th pontiff in the Church's 2,000-year history will face an array of problems, including sex-abuse scandals, infighting within the bureaucracy and the spread of secularism. **REUTERS**

Do Androids dream of toppling iPads?

Shipments of Apple Inc.'s iPads will fall behind the growing variety of tablets running Google Inc.'s Android platform for the first time this year IDC said. iPad shipments are expected to account for 46 percent of the market in 2013, IDC said. Devices running Android are expected to grow their market share to 49 percent. **REUTERS**

$7M

Google Inc. will pay $7 million to 38 states and the District of Columbia to settle an investigation into an incident in which its Street View mapping cars collected passwords and other personal data from home wireless networks between 2008 and 2010. **REUTERS**

24

THE DAY'S NEWS AT A GLANCE

"This bill is about three simple things: It's about love, it's about family and it's about equality under the law."

COLORADO HOUSE SPEAKER MARK FERRANDINO, A GAY DEMOCRAT AND A SPONSOR OF A PASSED BILL ALLOWING SAME-SEX CIVIL UNIONS IN THE STATE. THE MEASURE, WHICH PASSED BY A 39-26 VOTE IN THE STATE HOUSE, WOULD PROVIDE BENEFITS, PROTECTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO GAY COUPLES.

Venezuela to probe cancer 'poisoning' accusation

Venezuela will set up a formal inquiry into suspicions that the late President Hugo Chavez's cancer was the result of poisoning by his enemies abroad. The accusation has been derided by critics of the government, who view it as a typical Chavez-style conspiracy theory intended to feed fears of "imperialist" threats to the socialist system. Still, acting President Nicolas Maduro vowed to push through a serious investigation into the claim. "We will seek the truth," Maduro told Telesur. "We have the intuition that our commander Chavez was poisoned by dark forces that wanted him out of the way." **REUTERS**

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myentertainment

THE WORD

Meredith Engel's take on the world of gossip @meredithatmetro meredith.engel@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return on March 20.

Butler not good with names

I'm not sure why I'm so fascinated by the hookup between **Gerard Butler** and **Brandi Glanville**. Maybe it's because she's so low on the celebrity totem pole, and he's a bit higher. Or maybe it's because he just told **Howard Stern** that he had "wild" sex with the reality star, then forgot her name when a paparazzo approached him about the tryst. Always a gent, Butler explained himself to Stern. "I said: 'Who's Brandi Glanville?' Because, 1. I didn't know her last name; and 2. I didn't know she was a celebrity, and I didn't know she was going to f—king tell people about it!"

How funny: Butler has no trouble forgetting the women he's slept with, and we have no trouble forgetting his movies.

Butler

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Want to get in on the action, ironically or not? Lil Jon brings his moves to Pittsburgh on April 10 (sorry, Philly peeps — that's the closest he'll come to us).

SETH BROWARNIK/WORLDREDEYE.COM

Lil Jon wants to rock your next Zumba class

When **Lil Jon** told us he was gonna move "till the sweat drops down" to a specific place near his own "lil jon," as it were, we had no idea he was talking about getting low in a Zumba class. But apparently the rapper is a big fan of the fitness craze (or just really short on cash) and has signed on to DJ Zumba classes across the country as part of a new Zumba Nightclub Series. Lil Jon will spin on the turntables while celebrity instructor Gina Grant leads a workout. Oh, and don't hit the radio for his new single, "Work" — it was created just for Zumba and will be the theme song for the nightclub series tour, complete with dance moves.

As Metro's resident fitness test dummy, I admit this class does sound tantalizing. But I will only partake under the following conditions: 1. I get to rehydrate with crunk juice instead of water; 2. all participants get to shout "OH-KAY!" and "YAY-UH!" whenever they please.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Michael Caine is celebrating, Ricky Martin is worried, Bill Maher is excited about getting a new pope and Kelly Clarkson can't believe what her body can't handle.

@themichaelcaine
Thank You for your kind Birthday messages. Will blow the candles off

@ricky_martin
Of all the "Trending News" out there, the one that I really care and I'm concerned about is North Korea.

@billmaher
Papal conclave has begun! So exciting, like the Oscars all over again- we all want to know: Who will win, and who's dress will he be wearing?

@kelly_clarkson
I just found out I'm allergic to Golden Rod .....c'mon that has to be fake haha. It's sounds like an adult movie, not a weed!

Clarkson

Talking points

Gomez ready to grow up

As her new movie "Spring Breakers" suggests, former "Witches of Waverly Place" star **Selena Gomez** is eager to cut ties with her Disney past. "Disney is a machine, and I'm grateful for it, but I feel like being part of that environment made me crave the reaction from other projects even more," Gomez tells The New York Times. "Creatively, this is where I wanted to go." The racy, violent film features Gomez and former "High School Musical" star **Vanessa Hudgens** as coeds who rob a diner to fund a wild week in Florida.

▶ Gomez

If Wilde has ugly days, we're all screwed

Olivia Wilde says fiance **Jason Sudeikis** is "the great love of my life," but when she first started falling for him she worried the "Saturday Night Live" star's feelings wouldn't be mutual. "I thought, 'He won't be interested in me; I'm not a contender,'" she tells Marie Claire. "He was so cool, so funny — I was such a fan of his and had always fancied his speed and his intelligence. He's a brilliant actor with a brain like lightning. I thought, 'I'm not beautiful enough or his type.'"

Stop getting those One Direction tattoos already

The boys in **One Direction** clearly love tattoos, considering how many they've added to their bodies in the past year — but apparently they're learning to draw the line. Their reps deleted a post to the boy band's Twitter account asking fans to submit photos of their own ink to win tickets to see the band's upcoming 3-D movie. "This tweet was posted in error and has now been removed," a rep tells the BBC. "One Direction does not want to encourage any of their fans to get 1D tattoos."

The British are coming (to fight drugs)

1: Russell Brand and **Mitch Winehouse** launched the Amy Winehouse Foundation Drugs Resilience program in U.K. schools yesterday in London.

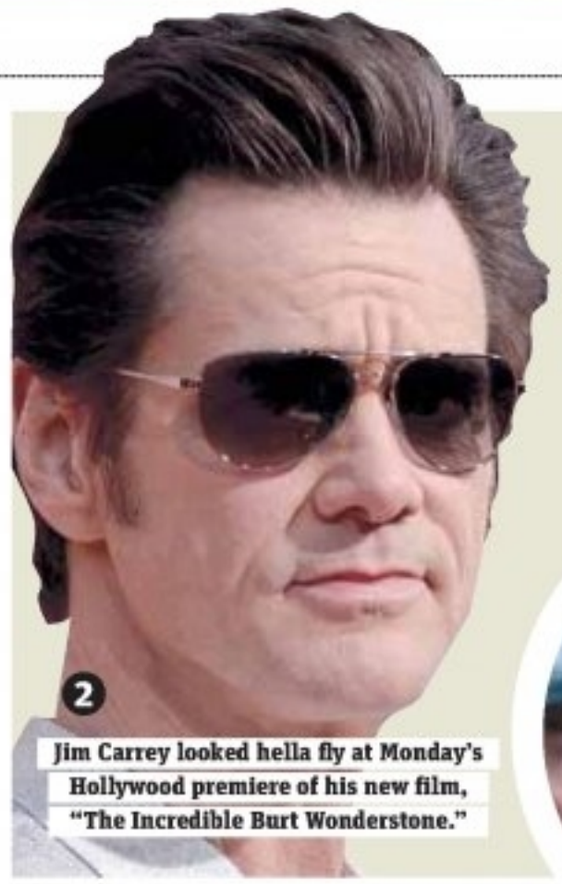
3: Looks like **Zara Phillips'** horse didn't do very well on the first day of the Cheltenham Festival at Cheltenham Racecourse yesterday in England.

4: Director **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** (dang, it feels good to type that) introduced his film "Don Jon's Addiction" during SXSW in Austin, Texas, on Monday.

5: Journey lead singer **Arnel Pineda** gave some love to the camera onstage in Osaka, Japan, yesterday.

6: "Girls" star **Allison Williams**, daughter of **Brian**, had a laugh at the "Elvis Duran and the Morning Show" studios yesterday in NYC.

1: EAMONN MCCORMACK/GETTY IMAGES
2: KEVIN WINTER/GETTY
3: DANNY MARTINDALE/GETTY
4: MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY
5: JUN SATO/WIREIMAGE
6: SLAVEN VLASIC/GETTY



2 Jim Carrey looked hella fly at Monday's Hollywood premiere of his new film, "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone."

3

4

5

6

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Hanging up his Morning Jacket for a solo outfit

With three shows at SXSW this week, Jim James talks about his new solo project and past visits to the Austin music conference

SXSW

NOLAN GAWRON
TWITTER: @METROUSMUSIC

With My Morning Jacket taking a brief break, the prolific Jim James is trying something different with his recent solo album. "Regions of Light and Sound of God," released last month, seems and sounds as though divine intervention has led the songwriter to new sonic soil.

Playing almost all of the instruments on the record, this isn't your traditional stripped-down solo journey, but instead an epic musical onslaught that sounds as though a dozen people contributed to the final product.

Taking his new tunes on the road, James has built a quartet comprised of fellow Louisvillians to help rebuild the audio architecture of the solo record in a live setting. After catching his first few shows in NYC last month, my skepticism quickly turned to satisfaction, as the new band delivered some magical moments that not only gave life to the album, but took the viewing their album "Evil Urges." So what is Jim James looking forward to seeing this year? "My true destiny," he says.

— Jim James plays three shows at SXSW and participates in a panel discussion and a non-SXSW-affiliated benefit show at Willie Nelson's Ranch.

'True destiny' on the line

Since their SXSW debut, My Morning Jacket have only played the festival one other time — in 2008. They went from being unknown hopefuls in 2000 to being one of the event's main attractions six years later while pre-

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FRED BEANS REPEATS HISTORIC USED CAR SALE

Doylestown, PA – Fred Beans, CEO and Founder of the Fred Beans Automotive Group located in Doylestown PA, has announced a **ONE DAY SALE** on Saturday, March 16th at 9:00 AM, where pre-owned vehicles will be sold for as low as **$999**. This sale is being held due to overwhelming public demand.

Cars will be clearly marked, so come early for the best selection. This is a **ONE DAY ONLY** sale designed to get the local community driving again.

Fred Beans' pre-owned inventory levels need to be reduced to make room for shipments of new models arriving daily. As a result, **all 7 Fred Beans Doylestown locations are selling these overstocked pre-owned vehicles to the public at drastic discounts in an attempt to clear excess inventory**.

In addition to this huge variety of pre-owned vehicles, the Fred Beans Family of Dealerships in Doylestown features new Ford, Lincoln, Mitsubishi, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep, Hyundai, Nissan, Subaru, Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick, GMC, and Saab vehicles.

Fred Beans believes reviving the economy starts at home, and changing things locally will lead to changing things nationally.

In addition to the Fred Beans Family of Dealerships' extra inventory, additional vehicles have been acquired at incredible prices from various banks, repossession companies, auto auctions, credit unions, lease companies, and rental companies for this sale.

The sale will make pre-owned vehicles available for as low as **$999**, prices not normally offered to the general public. According to Fred Beans, ***"We want to give our customers a reason to believe in the local economy again. Someone has to look out for their best interests."***

Customers are encouraged to arrive and register by 8:15AM to inspect the entire inventory and find the car that is right for them. Every vehicle will be cleaned, detailed, and fully prepared for instant delivery. On the evening of March 15th after close of business, Mr. Beans and his team will mark the special sale price on each and every vehicle.

Because Fred Beans' customers are feeling the credit crunch right now, the Fred Beans Automotive Group has given the dealerships' financing managers the resources necessary to get most customers' credit approved on the spot.

The Fred Beans Family of Dealerships has $10,000,000 in lending power, the result of over 50 years of strong relationships with the area's leading lenders. This means that customers with "less than perfect" credit history can have their credit approved and drive a quality pre-owned car, truck, or SUV home by lunchtime on Saturday.

Even if a customer's credit report shows a bankruptcy, divorce, tax lien, slow payment history, missed payment, or repossession, or if a customer is a first time buyer, Fred Beans may get them approved.

This special **ONE DAY ONLY** sale will be held at all 7 Fred Beans Doylestown locations this Saturday, March 16th, at 9:00AM.

Pre-owned vehicles will be sold for as low as $999. Customers are encouraged to arrive and register by 8:15AM for the start of inspection. Incredible sale prices, starting as low as **$999**, will be posted no later than 8:00AM. All vehicles will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. The Fred Beans Family of Dealerships is expecting a high volume of customers for this sale, so be sure to reserve your spot early.

Customers wishing to trade in a vehicle are asked to bring their title or payment book for immediate delivery. Fred Beans will even pay off your trade-in in full, no matter how much you still owe on it.

Most of these surplus pre-owned vehicles will get sent directly to auto auctions for liquidation. So, if anyone has been thinking about purchasing a good, clean, dependable pre-owned car, truck, van or sport utility vehicle, do not miss this special **ONE DAY ONLY** sale.

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*At least four vehicles on Fred Beans' lots will be sold for as low as $999 on March 16th, 2013. All offers to qualified buyers. Cannot be combined with other offers.

KBC UNIVERSAL

▶ Jim James is no longer just the dude with the guitar who happens to be in front of the microphone. He's now a solo singer! Seek out his performance on "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon," pictured here.

songs to another level.

Focusing primarily on electronics, James' band fills the instrumental backdrop while he mans the mic, taking on the role of the traditional frontman, and occasionally picking up random and often unlikely instruments.

While My Morning Jacket are no strangers to SXSW, James makes his first appearance at the festival this week as a solo act. MMJ's first trip to the Austin shindig came early in their career, and James is quick to note the benefits of playing the festival then.

"The year was 1914," James says in jest. "Alongside other explorers like us who had heard about the legend of gold in them rolling hills and mountain ranges of downtown Austin, we rolled into town just before dawn on March 13 of that year and took up shop at the Pecan Street Ale House … or was it Urban Outfitters?"

All jokes aside, the venues and day of the month are real, but the year was 2002 and SXSW became one of the band's first shows outside of Europe and Kentucky.

"It's all strange and wonderful," says James. "I mean, we've worked our asses to the bone over the years and it feels good when you chase a dream and see some progress. … It's very exciting and we are very grateful to the universe to have been allowed to make some progress on our dreams."

*—Follow **Nolan Gawron** on Twitter: @metrousmusic. Check www.metro.us for his updates on the best of SXSW.*

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mytechnology

Technology news

Could this be Samsung's Galaxy S IV?

New images from a Chinese forum, unearthed by Sammy Hub, might be showing Samsung's upcoming flagship Android smartphone, the Galaxy S IV.

SAMSUNG

▶ Now you see it?

The device in the photos is marked GT-I9502, and looks very similar to Samsung Galaxy S III. Screenshots from the Antutu hardware test application show that it's rocking a quad-core 1.8GHz processor, a 1080p display, 13-megapixel camera and 2GB of RAM.

The Samsung Galaxy S IV is due to be unveiled tomorrow in New York. Previous rumors about the device's hardware sound similar to the specifications listed above, with one notable exception — we've heard that the Galaxy S IV will be powered by an 8-core processor. **STAN SCHROEDER/MASHABLE**

PHOTODISC

▶ You can expect video ads on Facebook by April.

Facebook video ads are on their way

Facebook video ads are coming to your News Feed — it's just a matter of when.

AdAge reported in mid-December that Facebook was planning to introduce a new ad product "by April at the latest" that would let marketers target video ads in users' News Feeds on desktop and mobile devices.

According to that report, the ads would max out at 15 seconds and start playing automatically in the feed.

Rory Maher, an analyst with Hillside Partners, said last month that Facebook was "beta testing a video ad product," which could be released in the first half of this year. And Facebook's top ad exec David Fischer confirmed in a recent interview that the company was "certainly looking" at the option of introducing video ad units.

Facebook took a big step this week toward paving the way for video ads with the redesign of News Feed. The overhauled look places much more emphasis on visual content. Marketers we spoke with believe it will give them more room to create richer and larger ad units, including videos.

If your first reaction to video ads in your News Feed is another F-word besides Facebook, you're probably not alone.

"Facebook knows that they can't alienate users and continue to grow at the rate they are. That's why we've seen them be cautious in rolling out monetization products," says Clark Fredricksen, an analyst with eMarketer. "It's my guess that we'll see something similar here."

So can Facebook place video ads in News Feed without angering or alienating its users? The short answer is that Facebook does some version of this already. Brands and marketers have the option to post videos to the social network, which they can pay to promote as an ad. These are not preroll ads or auto-playing ads, or even the kind of pop-out ads you see on other websites — but they are video ads nonetheless.

AdWeek said on Thursday that Facebook now has a team of 150 employees working to build video tools that might make it easier for media companies to deliver more videos on the site and perhaps even place preroll ads in these clips. In this sense, Facebook would be following the YouTube model.

Quoted

"Facebook knows that they can't alienate users and continue to grow at the rate they are. That's why we've seen them be cautious in rolling out monetization products."

FREDRICKSEN

SETH FIEGERMAN FOR Mashable The Social Media Guide

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TV watch list

MONTY BRINTON/CBS

▶ The cast of "Survivor" is all smiles here, but not for long.

'Survivor'

REALITY. Experience a "Survivor" first when one contestant has a total meltdown. Be on the lookout for animated GIFs by the end of the week.
8 p.m., CBS

'Haunted Collector'

REALITY. Paranormal investigators weigh in on one of humanity's oldest questions: Is my stuff haunted?
9 p.m., Syfy

'Kimora: House of Fab'

REALITY. Get the inside scoop on the too-everything Kimora Lee Simmons, who helms the online fashion service House of Fab.
9 p.m., Style

'Not My Mama's Meals'

REALITY. Chef Bobby Deen concocts healthier versions of his famous mother's decadent dishes.
9 p.m., Cooking

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A made-for-TV performance

Curtis Opera Theatre's 'Owen Wingrave' opens tonight at the Kimmel The artistic director calls this version 'an edgy production'

CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

Director Daniel Fish gave the opera "Owen Wingrave" a modern twist.

Composer Benjamin Britten wrote "Owen Wingrave" for an unconventional stage: television. The opera premiered in 1971 on Britain's BBC2 and has only rarely transitioned to the live stage in the 40 years since. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Britten's birth, Curtis Opera Theatre is presenting a new production of the little-seen piece in association with Opera Philadelphia and the Kimmel Center.

To guide Curtis' new production, artistic director Mikael Eliasen enlisted the irreverent theater director Daniel Fish, who has offered new twists on classics by the likes of Shakespeare or Rodgers and Hammerstein, and found inspiration for new works in unlikely sources, such as the films of Nicholas Ray or the novels of Jonathan Franzen.

If you go

'Owen Wingrave'
Through March 17
Perelman Theater, Kimmel Center
300 South Broad St.
$72-$132,
www.operaphila.org

"Owen Wingrave" will be his first opera, but Eliasen nevertheless found him the perfect candidate.

"Because the opera was conceived for television, there are a number of problems in doing it on-stage that are tricky to solve," Eliasen says. "I chose Daniel because of those difficulties, and he's found some fantastic solutions. I think probably one would call it an edgy production, but it's been wonderful having him here making everybody think in a very different way about what theater is."

The production will make use of video, a technique that Fish has used in the past. It will also call on some more conventional resources, such as the voices of the Philadelphia Boys Choir.

Aside from the appeal of celebrating Britten's centenary with one of the composer's more obscure works, Eliasen was attracted to "Owen Wingrave" because of its topicality. Based on a short story by Henry James, the opera deals with the title character's resistance to following in the footsteps of his military family. "Britten was a great pacifist," Eliasen says, "and this is a piece about why we continue to kill each other. It's extremely relevant in today's world as we read the papers and see wars going on everywhere."

Shaun Brady
shaun.brady@metro.us

Let the Weight Be Over!

My weight loss journey began a little more than 2 years ago, during an annual physical. My doctor told me that if I didn't do something about my weight – and fast – that I would likely end up with very serious medical conditions. My five foot frame was carrying 259 lbs.! I had been trying conventional diets for years. I would lose weight, but never the amount I needed to lose, and was never able to maintain the weight loss.

"2 years and 110 lbs. after surgery, and I am still on my journey!" – Lovie

I knew my doctor was right. So, after some research, I found the **Center for Surgical Weight Loss** at Hahnemann University Hospital. With the guidance of the surgeon, the dietitian, and the rest of the surgical weight loss team, I was motivated to get serious about losing weight. In fact, by following the dietitian's advice, I was able to lose 27 pounds even before surgery! I am grateful to the entire surgical weight loss team – they provided the education and support I needed to reclaim my life!*

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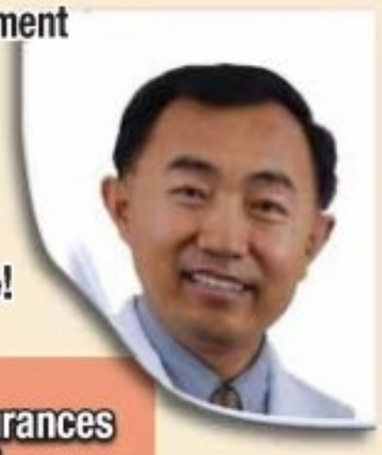

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African art

▶ Norma Bessieres' "Le Sage" is on display at the Sofitel.

Zebras take over at the Sofitel

Art is the inspiration at Liberte Lounge, the low-key bar/restaurant at the Sofitel on 17th and Sansom. The hotel is hanging African-influenced, zebra-inspired paintings by Norma Bessieres in its lobby for a "Taming of the Stripes" exhibit and chef Jim Coleman, taking a departure from Liberte's usual French cuisine, is debuting a new menu to match. The African fare will be available through the end of the month. Try the Uganda veal with bananas and ginger in a tartlet shell or the Nigerian pancakes with smoked shrimp, and wash it all down with a fruity Safari cocktail. METRO

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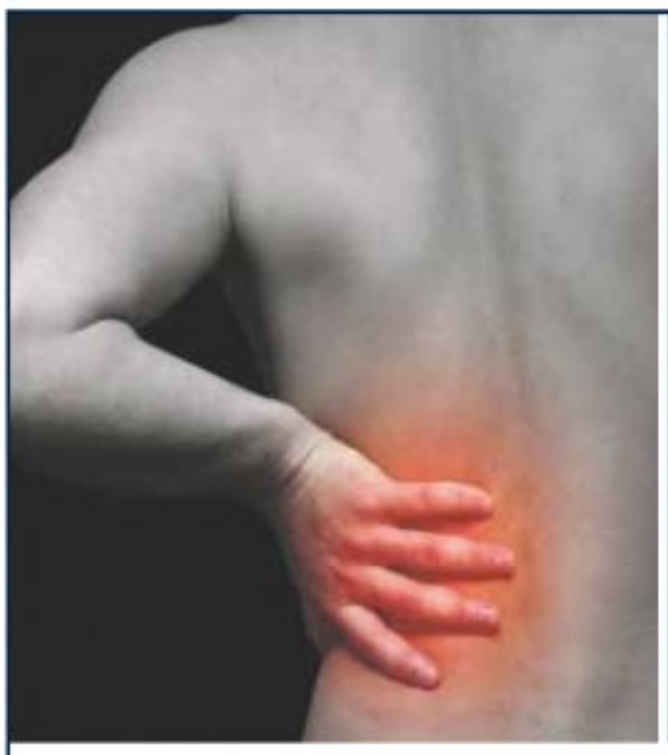

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mystyle

Marc Jacobs: Sex and

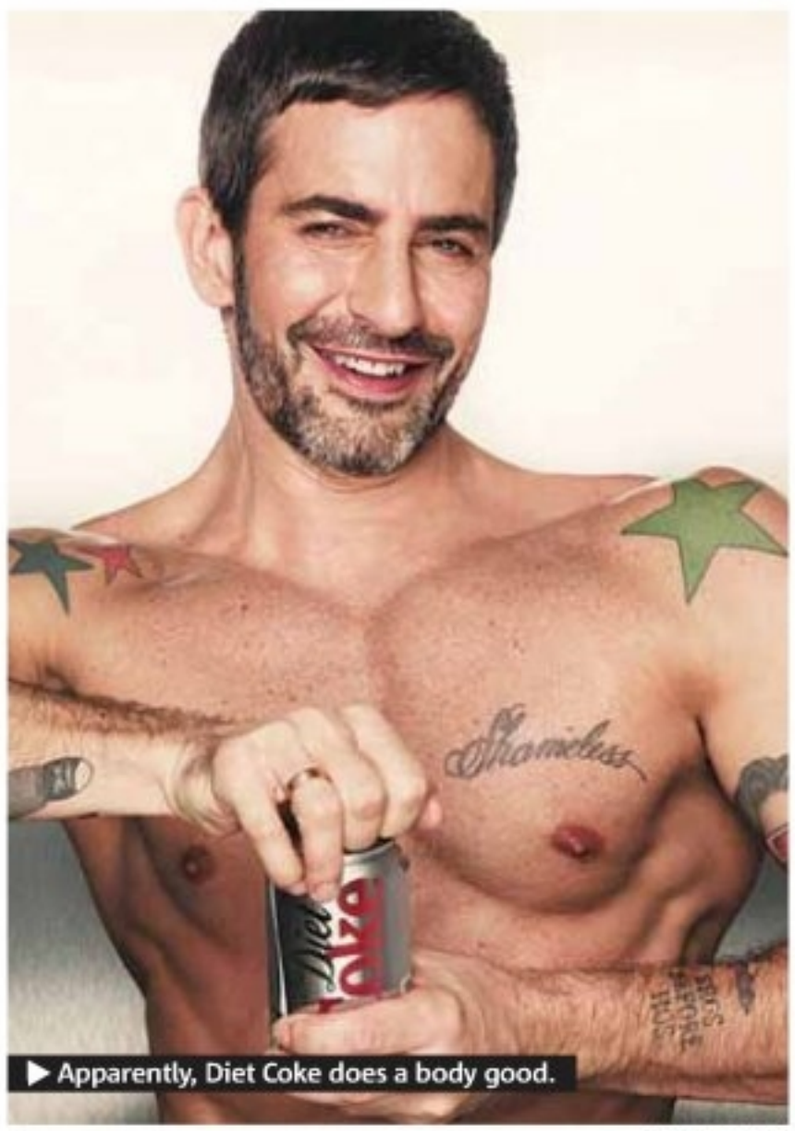
Diet Coke wraps its signature bottles in the designer's fashion to mark 30th anniversary The drink brand's creative director talks sex, Kate Moss and why he won't compete with Tom Ford

Next month you'll turn 50. What do you have planned for your midlife crisis?
My midlife crisis has been going on for 20 years. I don't see it as a crisis at all. I think it's quite an adventure, not a crisis, for me. I'm not going to buy a Corvette or anything like that — I guess that's someone else's midlife crisis.

You've said you don't have any big party plans, but you seem to enjoy wearing some pretty outrageous outfits, like that pink polo shirt dress. Do you enjoy getting dressed up?
I do enjoy it. I love attention. I'm very honest about it. There were years when I just didn't want to do press, and I didn't really care about my appearance; I sort of shied away from things like that. But in order to enjoy [press events], I have to be me and sometimes that means wearing a pink dress, a lace dress or a kilt. Also, I feel like I need to relate to that joy and that ritual of going shopping and finding something to wear and then wearing it. I think being connected to that makes me a better designer: it's sort of like practicing what you preach. I wouldn't really be doing my job if I didn't do that.

What's your relationship with Kate Moss like?
Kate Moss? She just texted me. We've been on holiday together. We were in Ibiza a few years ago with her daughter [Lila Grace], [photographers] Mert [Alas] and Marcus [Piggott] and some friends of mine. I've spent a great deal of time with Kate over the years; we genuinely like each other — we just click.

She regularly closes your show. Do you ask her, or vice-versa?
It works both ways. She's expressed interest and of course, I've expressed in-



▶ Apparently, Diet Coke does a body good.

STEPHANE SEDNAOUI

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soda

terest in wanting her in a show. Over the past few years, it's kind of like the Vuitton show is the only show she'll do. It's kind of just become this thing.

Your last few Louis Vuitton shows contained sexual undertones. How does sex influence your work?

Sex is a big part of my life. It's a very big part of most people's lives, whether they want to admit it or not. I don't know, sometimes when collections feel more personal there's more of an undercurrent of things that are of an emotional nature. When I dream, there's this darkness, this melancholy side, there's this sexual tension and then there's this kind of identity thing that goes on: an element of role-play and honesty. In the collections that I feel most proud of, there are personal feelings and emotions that make it human.

Speaking of sex, you're in great shape and so is Tom Ford. Who's the bigger stud and why?

I don't know. I don't compete with Tom Ford. Tom's a friend of mine and I think Tom's terrific. He's a great-looking guy and all of that, but I certainly don't set out to compete with Tom. [Laughs] I wouldn't compare anything of mine to anything of his.

Cigarettes, coffee and Diet Coke — would that you say you've got an addictive personality?

Let's not put cigarettes in the same category as Diet Coke. Smoking is my bad habit, I'd say. It's my biggest vice and bad habit; I don't recommend it.

How many do you smoke a day?

I don't know, I don't count. I try not to.

Richard Peckett
METRO WORLD NEWS

On his work

- **How does inspiration differ between your Marc Jacobs and Louis Vuitton lines?**
  The N.Y. collection is very personal to my life growing up in New York. My collection in Paris is a bit more of a fantasy life: that of being a French designer and working with the ateliers of Paris — it feels like I'm looking in on a different world.
- **Are there too many designer collaborations?**
  No, no. If nobody had any interest in designers doing bottles, then Diet Coke wouldn't ask designers to do it. It's about supply and demand.
- **Do you think fashion houses are creating too many collections?**
  It is too much, but I don't actively participate in all of it to the same degree. I know when I'm most needed and that's when I rise to the occasion, and I don't think any one person does do that much. They might say that they do, but they don't.

Jefferson.

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If you would like to know more about the study, please contact your local DIGNITY2 study team directly or visit the DIGNITY2 website at www.DIGNITY2study.com

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KERRY BRETT

▶ The Dropkick Murphys return to their punk-rock roots with their latest album, "Signed and Sealed in Blood."

'Signed and Sealed' delivers the goods

The Dropkick Murphys' Ken Casey promises 'a good, old-fashioned punk-rock record'

How do you follow an intricate concept album? If you're the Dropkick Murphys you go back to basics. And the result, with the January-released, St. Patrick's Day-ready "Signed and Sealed in Blood," is a rip-roaring Boston Celtic punk classic.

"The previous record being a concept album was very much mental gymnastics," says Dropkicks co-founder Ken Casey. "It was a great songwriting exercise. But this time we felt like kids in a candy store ready to write a good, old-fashioned punk-rock record. It never would have happened or sounded like this if the other one hadn't been like it was — or come as quick."

Right from the foot-stomping opener "The Boys Are Back," the seven-man band wear their pent-up punk-rock energy on their tattooed sleeves. "It's difficult writing a song, but when you're trying to tie all the songs into a larger story, it steers you into directions you might not want to go in," adds Casey. "This one is a simpler record. ... Even though this album doesn't have a true ballad, we slow it down."

'Hero' returns

Among the hundreds of songs the Dropkick Murphys have under their belt, "Barroom Hero" is a clear fan favorite.

"We'd taken it out of the set," Casey says. "Then people stared saying, 'What the hell are you doing not playing that song?' So, we started putting it back in. It was the first song we ever wrote, even before we started the band. It's always been a staple."

Linda Laban
linda.laban@metro.us

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mywellbeing

6 Ways to avoid colon cancer

- March is dedicated to raising awareness
- How to reduce your risk of developing cancer

We carry around about 20-25 feet of intestine, and yet, until something goes wrong, we are oblivious to it. Therein lies the colon, which removes our body's waste. March has been designated National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, which aims to draw attention to this crucial part of the body's digestive system. Of the approximately 150,000 cases of colorectal cancer diagnosed in the U.S. annually, about 50,000 are fatal, according to the American Cancer Society. We asked Dr. Giancarlo Mercogliano, the chief of gastroenterology for Philly's Main Line Health System, for his tips on how to avoid those statistics by living a healthier life.

▶ If you're turning 50 this year, schedule a colonoscopy. For more information, visit www.stopcoloncancernow.com.

DIGITAL VISION

Maintain a healthy weight: "Being overweight is linked to colon cancer," Dr. Mercogliano says. "We are not sure of a direct link or whether that's because an overweight person has an unhealthy diet. But keeping weight in check is important."

Eat less meat: "The Western high-fat, high-meat diet is linked with colon cancer. In Africa, where many people eat a mostly vegetarian diet, there is less incidence of colon cancer. In Asia, too, where less meat is eaten, there is less incidence."

Limit your alcohol intake: "Moderate drinking might be healthy — that's small, specified doses. Drinking a glass of red wine has been shown to be healthy; [more than that] is not."

Take your vitamins: "Vitamin D, calcium and folic acid have been shown quite clearly to prevent colon cancer. Aspirin too: The data is conflicting, but in one study, aspirin seemed to shrink polyps, which are thought to be precancerous."

Change your lifestyle: "Smoking promotes all cancers and that includes colon cancer. Also, exercise that benefits the whole body benefits the colon."

Linda Clarke
letters@metro.us

Get checked out

"Colon cancer is the third leading cancer killer in both men and women," says Dr. David Robbins, a gastroenterologist at the Manhattan Endoscopy Center.

"It can be detected at a very early stage with a brief, painless test called a colonoscopy. Catching colon cancer early gives doctors an excellent shot at curing this often-preventable cancer."

Getting a colonoscopy is no big deal: There are alternatives to the typical liquid preparation, you're under anesthesia the whole time and patients can usually go home the same day.

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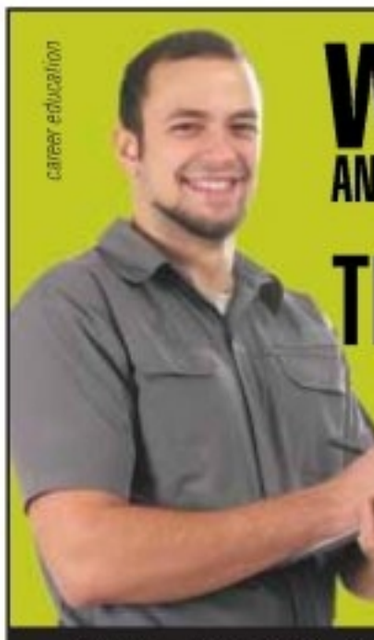
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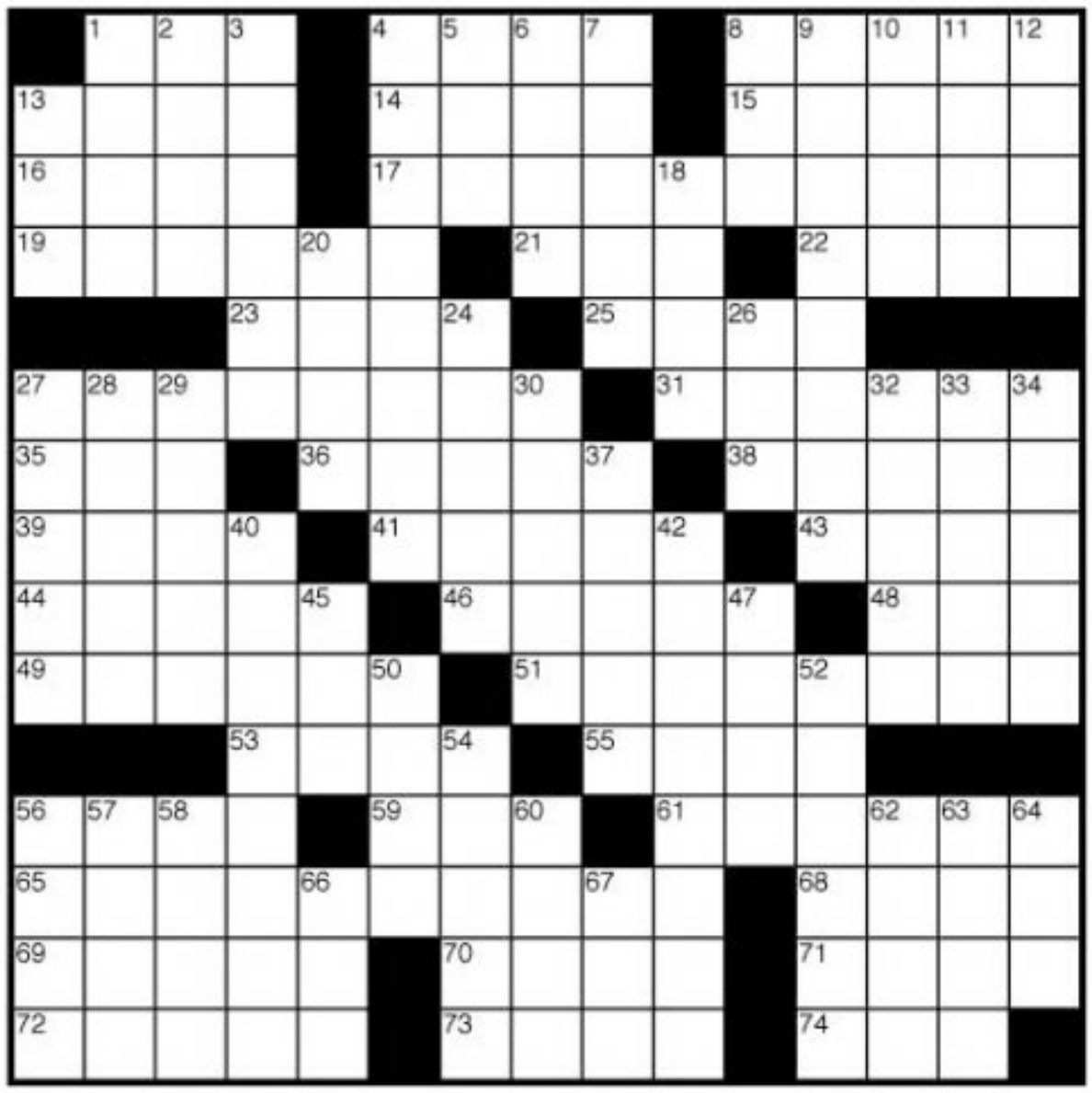

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1 Compete for
4 Brass component
8 Snake plate
13 Cuzco locale
14 Inventor's spark
15 Croesus' conquest
16 Deg. holder
17 Toast spreads
19 Soak up
21 Quagmire
22 AMEX rival
23 Interstate
25 Non-clerical
27 Fixed up
31 Casual top (hyph.)
35 Blue or green
36 Win every game
38 Copier need
39 Purple flower
41 Ant
43 Tempo
44 Sniffed at
46 Flies alone
48 Vote against
49 High regard
51 Posers
53 Erelong
55 B'way postings of yore
56 — Wooley's "The Purple People Eater"
59 PC key
61 Joke response (3 wds.)
65 Word lovers
68 Pakistani's tongue
69 Secret romance
70 Gave temporarily
71 Numskull
72 Heroic tale
73 Chop —
74 Tribute in verse

Down
1 "Make" or "break"
2 Pension accts.
3 Author — Welty
4 Rhodesia, now
5 Potato st.
6 Foam-ball brand
7 Dromedary
8 — vous plait
9 Newscaster's partner
10 Warhol or Rooney
11 More than fibs
12 Soothe
13 Woods' org.
18 Premed course
20 Thieves
24 Regards as
26 Hobby ender
27 Dry white wine
28 Lira replacer
29 Bank job
30 Promo tapes
32 Ludicrous
33 Pave over
34 Cards above deuces
37 Throws rocks
40 Attend to (2 wds.)
42 Full of gift shops
45 Hibernate
47 Urban woe
50 Gauzy-winged insect
52 False
54 Hardware buy
56 Smelting waste
57 Back from work
58 Id companions
60 Gourmet cheese
62 Walked heavily
63 Not working
64 Egyptian boy-king
66 Opposite of "post"
67 Hydrocarbon suffix

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You are presently in a positive cycle in terms of your financial affairs. You might even acquire something that was long overdue.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** One of the best ways to get your co-workers' cooperation is to make sure that what's good for you can be great for them as well. It's one of the keys to success.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Rather than vying for center stage, keep a low profile, especially if you've been given a key role to play. It's the best way to get the acknowledgment that you crave.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you want some interesting things to occur in your social life, you can't wait for the right people to come to you. Seek them out yourself and, in a nice way, make your presence felt.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** One of the best ways to deal with a competitive situation is to take more positive action than your adversaries do. Keep an optimistic, proactive frame of mind, and you'll come out ahead.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Examine all new endeavors not merely for what they can do for you immediately, but how they can enhance your future. When you look ahead, make sure all the pieces fit together.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Sometimes we find ourselves in the excellent position of being able to reap a harvest from seeds we haven't sown. This might be your scenario today, so be alert for such an opportunity.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Snap judgments you arrive at might not be as perceptive as those of your mate's. Listen to his or her input, which could provide you with some alternatives that you haven't considered.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** The amount of zeal you display while working on a job is likely to set the tone that others will follow. If you want everything to unobtrusively buzz along, maintain an accelerated pace.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You are likely to have more fun and feel more comfortable in a small gathering than in a large group. Try to stay within your comfort zone

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** If your primary goal is to amply provide for those you love, you'll make sure that this objective is met, no matter what the day may throw at you.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** You should pay attention to intuition that tells you the proper course of action to take. Any afterthoughts will be less accurate, and land you on the rocks.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Solution to yesterday's crossword

Letters

Business not the only thing worth investing in

On March 27, our Congress has to pass a funding bill for the remainder of 2013. The House has just passed a bill that would keep the sequester in place, and without any changes from the Senate, this permanent sequester will have severe consequences for the National Institutes of Health.

While some argue that the sequester is not really a cut, the NIH will actually experience a 5.1 percent budget cut ($1.6 billion) as the NIH budgets have been flat over the past five years. As a concerned biomedical science graduate student, a NIH reduction will make it more difficult in my research on how to better activate killer T cells and their use in fighting cancer. Additionally, a failure to continue to invest in the NIH will hinder the development of new disease treatments and also negatively impact job development. Both Eric Cantor and Nancy Pelosi see the value in science funding and I urge Congress to find a way to blunt the impact of the sequester on the NIH.

SHAUN O'BRIEN, VIA E-MAIL

Pet sellers have gone to the dogs

Few people know that 98 percent to 100 percent of all pet store puppies come from inhumane, often criminally abusive puppy mills. The USDA licenses puppy mills and can barely keep up with annual inspections.

It also lacks the authority to shut down even the worst of them. Violations are rampant, and dogs that no longer churn out litters are killed or sold at auctions. Need proof? USDA inspection reports are online or simply Google puppy mills. Online-only sellers are completely unregulated — and it shows.

KRISTIE VANN, VIA E-MAIL

Wishing for a quick and decisive trial

So Osama's son-in-law Sulaiman Abu Ghaith is to be tried in New York on terror charges, plus conspiring to wreak havoc on New York City. Please, prosecutors, don't screw this up! At the very least, just try him and fry him!

HERB STARK, VIA E-MAIL

SUDOKU: HARD

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2				3		5	7	
			1				9	3
7			3		5			6
4	6				9			
	4	6		5				9
3			8	9				
		5	4			6		

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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What's wrong with the good doctor now?

Halladay lit up in spring start ◗ Velocity way down in loss ◗ Ace insists he's healthy, ready

A trace of panic set in yesterday in Florida after Roy Halladay turned in his worst outing of the spring.

Halladay, who had been cruising along in Grapefruit League play, surrendered seven runs, including a grand slam, in 2 2/3 innings. Making matters worse, reports claimed that Halladay's fastball was clocking in as low as 84 mph.

After the game, Halladay declared himself physically fit and blamed the poor outing on a more demanding workout routine. He threw two bullpen sessions in between spring starts.

"I think that the throwing is going to be a little less in between, but I'm going to try to continue to build for another week or so as much as I can in the weight room and things like that," Halladay told reporters. "I'm trying to use this time as best as I can to prepare myself for the season. And it's going to cost you sometimes. It cost me today."

The Phillies open the regular season in 19 days. Cole Hamels is expected to take the mound for that one, with Halladay taking the ball in the second game. The Phillies are taking the ace righty at his word — one bad start in March does not spell doom — but clearly it's a concern.

"He said he's healthy. He said he feels good," skipper Charlie Manuel said. "He said there's nothing wrong with him physically." METRO

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▶ Halladay is 2-1 with a 7.36 ERA this spring after a rough outing yesterday. The Phillies lost, 10-6, to the Tigers.

In the news

Wallace signs with Miami

The biggest splash on the first day of NFL free agency came as a disappointment to the other side of Pennsylvania.

Wide receiver Mike Wallace has reportedly signed with the Dolphins for five years and $60 million, with half of that money guaranteed.

Wallace was a third-round pick by the Steelers in 2009, but the homegrown star left for greener pastures. He led the Steelers in receiving touchdowns the past two years.

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Nna, Nna, hey, hey kiss him goodbye

Eagles make it official, release Asomugha Corner exits town after two unimpressive seasons Biggest bust in team history?

The Nnamdi Asomugha experiment (nightmare?) is finally over.

The overpriced cornerback was released by the Eagles yesterday, just a few minutes before the official start of free agency at 4 p.m. Asomugha leaves after an unimpressive 32 games in the Eagles' secondary. The move clears an estimated $11 million in cap space.

"Coach Kelly and I each had a chance to speak with Nnamdi earlier and he took the news with a lot of class," said GM Howie Roseman. "We expected nothing less than that from him. He has been a true pro on and off the field for this organization and our community, and we wish him all the best as he continues his NFL career. In the end, coach and I both felt we needed to move in a different direction at the cornerback position for 2013 and beyond."

Asomguha was the prize of the 2011 free-agent class and the Eagles rewarded him with a five-year, $60 million deal. With Asomugha and fellow free agent Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie lined up as the starting corners, the Eagles gave up the most passing touchdowns in the entire NFL (33) in 2012 and ninth-most (27) in 2011.

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▶ Asomugha recorded just four interceptions in his two seasons here. Brandon Boykin, right, is a leading in-house candidate to replace him.

Asomugha, 31, was once thought to be one of the league's elite corners. He never was — and finished with just four interceptions and an eventual benching.

"I'm very grateful for my time in Philadelphia and I want to thank the Eagles' organization for the opportunity to play here," Asomugha said in a statement. "It was an honor to play in such a great football city with such a passionate fan base, and I wish my former teammates and coaches the best next season."

Quoted

"In the end, coach and I both felt we needed to move in a different direction at the cornerback position for 2013 and beyond."

ROSEMAN, ON ASOMUGHA

Mike Greger
mgreger@metro.us

Busted coverage

Asomugha will most likely go down as the biggest free-agent bust in Eagles history. Still, let's take a look at some other high-profile moves that backfired:

Chris Boniol: Are we really putting a kicker on this list? When a team decides to invest $2.45 million — it was over four years — in a one-hit wonder kicker, then yes. Boniol only hit 36-of-52 field goal attempts in his two seasons here.

Nnamdi Asomugha: The prize of the 2011 free-agent class never panned out after breaking the bank on a five-year, $60 million deal. He'll go down as one of the worst signings in NFL history. Then again, you could add almost anyone from that class (Ronnie Brown, Vince Young, Cullen Jenkins, Jason Babin) to the list.

Jevon Kearse: It's really hard to label Kearse a bust. After all, he was a vital cog in the Super Bowl year (7.5 sacks) and racked up 22 sacks in four seasons. The knock on Kearse was injuries got the best of him, and he never completely lived up to the eight-year, $66 million deal he originally inked.

Where do Birds go from here?

Nnamdi Asomugha is gone, and the Eagles have expressed no interest in bringing back free agent Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie.

That means if the season started today, the Eagles would be forced to trot out two of the following players as their starting corners: Curtis Marsh, Brandon Hughes and/or Brandon Boykin. Yes, not exactly the stuff of legends — maybe not even serviceable starters on a bad team.

With the secondary in dire straits, look for the Birds to go hard after **Sean Smith**, while kicking the tires on a deal for Darrelle Revis. Sources have indicated that the Eagles have at least inquired about both.

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Wyatt named A-10 Player of the Year

In one of the most expected end-of-season awards, Khalif Wyatt was named Atlantic 10 Player of the Year yesterday. Wyatt becomes the first Temple player to earn the honor since Pepe Sanchez won it in 2000.

Wyatt, a Norristown native, led the Owls and A-10 in scoring by averaging 19.9 points per game. He has scored 30 points or more, including 30 last Sunday against No. 21 VCU, in five games this season.

"I really don't know what to say right now, little overwhelmed," Wyatt said. "It's an award that really should go to my teammates and coaches for helping me all year and sticking with me and just trusting me, so I want to thank my teammates and my coaches."

Temple, already considered a lock by many to qualify for the NCAA tournament, will play in the A-10 tournament Friday night. The third-seeded Owls have a first-round bye. They'll play the winner of Massachusetts-George Washington.

METRO

Local flavor

Joining Wyatt at the awards podium are:

- **Ramon Galloway, La Salle:** Earned first-team, all-conference
- **Tyreek Duren, La Salle:** Named second-team, all-conference
- **Ronald Roberts, Saint Joseph's:** Earned third-team, all-conference
- **T.J. DiLeo:** All-Academic

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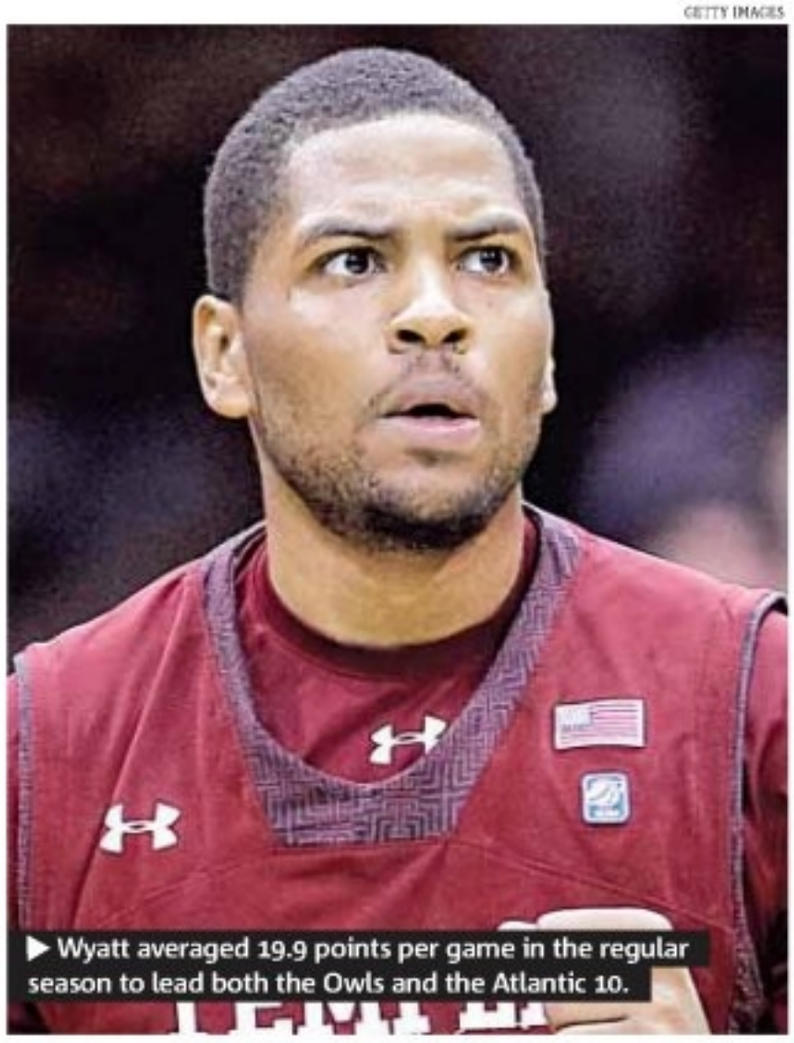

▶ Wyatt averaged 19.9 points per game in the regular season to lead both the Owls and the Atlantic 10.

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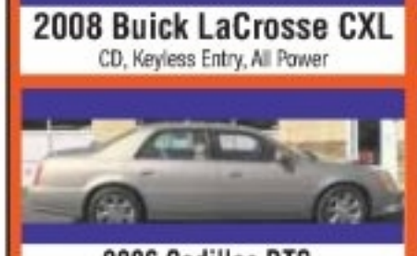

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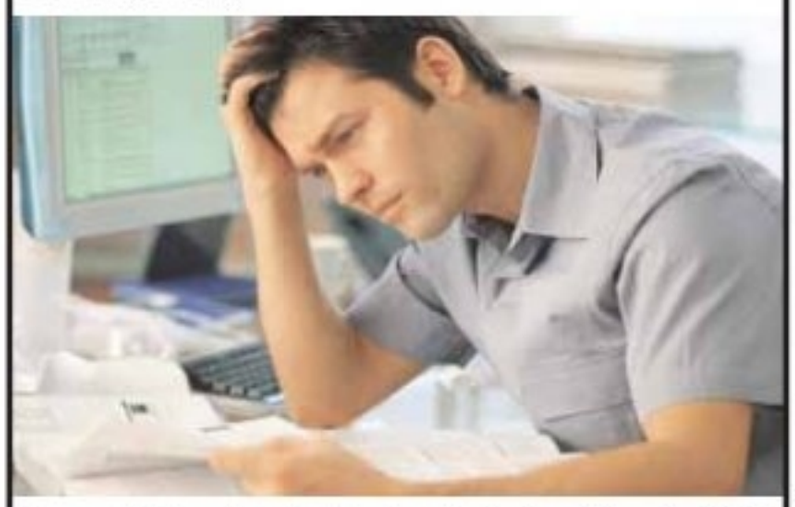

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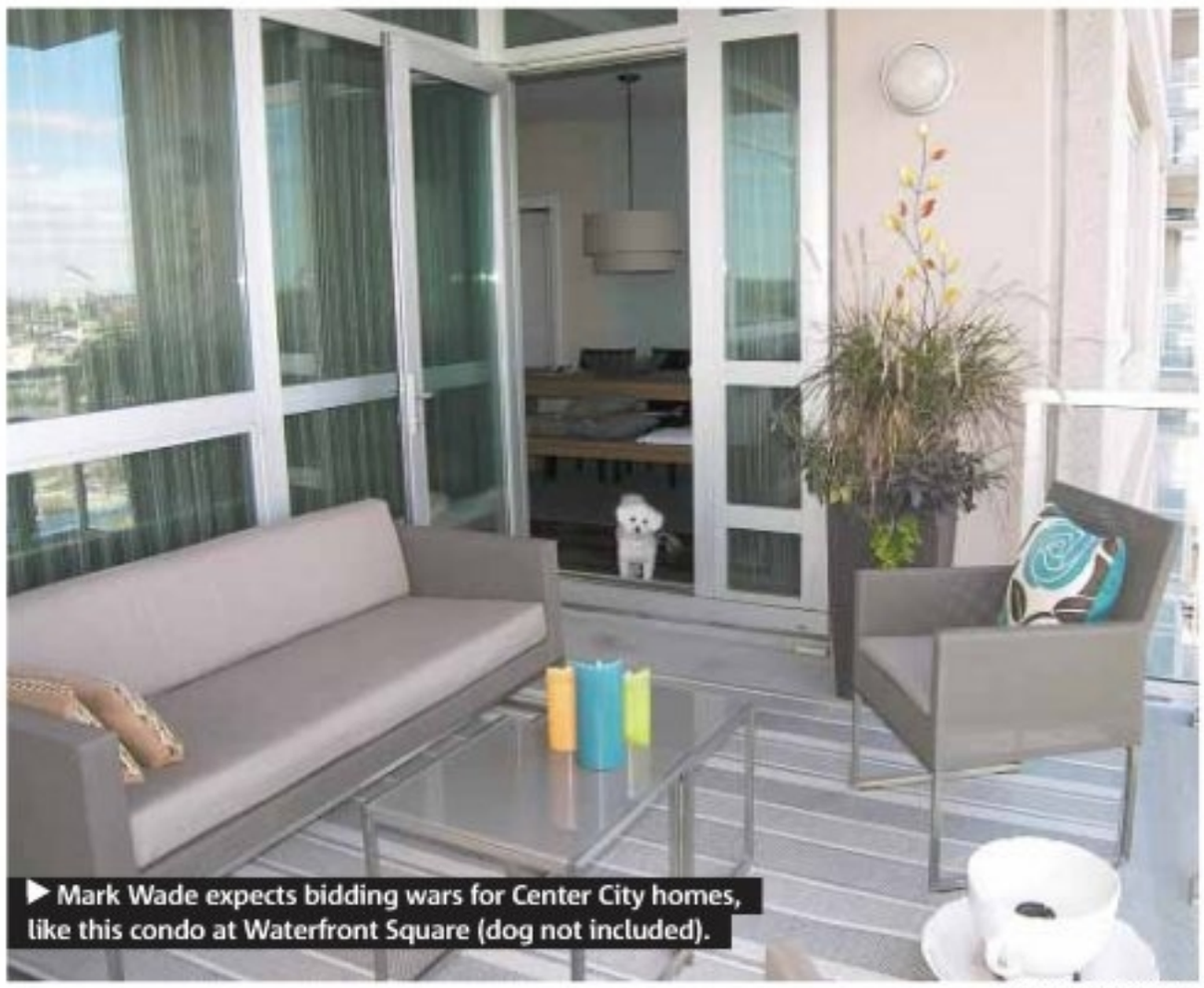
A hot spring market

Warmer weather may bring cooler prices But with less inventory out there, sellers should be optimistic, too Be prepared for bidding wars



Mark Wade expects bidding wars for Center City homes, like this condo at Waterfront Square (dog not included).

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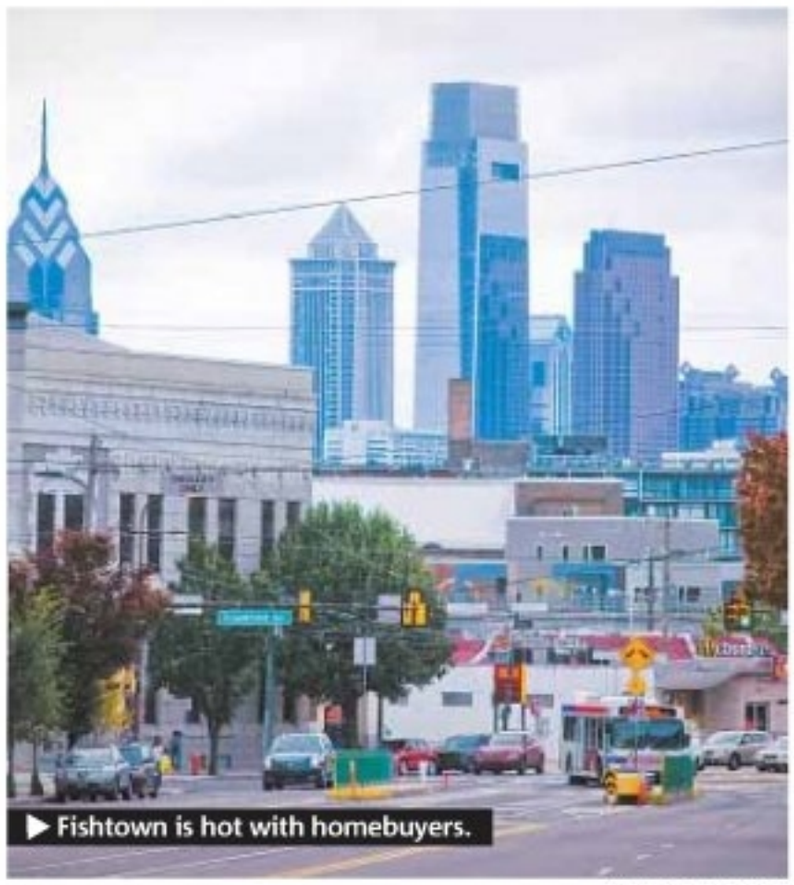
Historically, the spring market is a bustling time for Philadelphia real estate. But since the 2008 housing bust, it's been more like a slow churn. This upcoming season, however, looks promising. Based on recent sales, and with the help of low interest rates, local experts think we might be gradually coming out of a five-year slump.

What we're seeing now is the real estate market beginning to steady itself, says Chris Somers, a Realtor with RE/MAX Access. He thinks this reassurance is nudging buyers along. "For the first time since 2006, buyers are confident that homes will appreciate, and not depreciate, based on home prices surging higher in 2012," Somers says.

Additionally, many buyers are taking advantage of low rates. "With interest rates at 60-year lows, the purchasing power for a buyer provides a lot of opportunity. One can get a higher-priced home with an affordable mortgage payment," he says.

But that doesn't mean it's only a buyer's market. The shift in the housing sector is benefiting both sides right now.

"As we start to see some warm days, the buyers begin to come out of the woodwork," says Mark Wade of Prudential Fox and Roach, but there aren't as many homes out there as they may expect — which means bidding wars might ensue. "I think [buyers] are going to be surprised to find an overall lack of inventory that they may have seen in the spring markets of recent years," Wade says. "We're already experiencing multiple-bid situations prior to the spring market."



Fishtown is hot with homebuyers.

M. KENNEDY FOR CPTMC

Somers predicts certain neighborhoods will continue to increase in popularity. "It would be all of them that fall into that $200,000 to $500,000 range," he says, "with tremendous strength in Fishtown, South Kensington, Northern Liberties, Graduate Hospital and Point Breeze."

Julia West
julia.west@metro.us

Good news

The positive outlook for the spring doesn't stop at buyers and sellers. Renters may also like what they see this season. Chris Somers thinks the past will once again influence the future. "There was a buyers' strike over the years that catapulted the rental market, pushing up rental prices. I would expect that to shift and would not be surprised to see rental prices begin to soften," he says. But there is another factor on everyone's mind: possible tax hikes due to AVI, or Actual Value Initiative, may be the rain on this renters parade.

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Add pop to your

From Victorian Gothic to '70s hippie, revitalize a room with easy-to-use products from WallPops Pick decals or DIY fixtures

Ready for a spring home spruce-up? Boston-based Brewster Home Fashions' contemporary offshoot, WallPops, provides the ultimate in cheap and chic with its line of wall decals and DIY fixtures.

"The glory is anyone can do it without fear of getting it wrong," says Brewster's creative director, Paula Berberian. Brewster is one of America's oldest independent family-owned wall-covering companies and spans five generations. "For under a hundred bucks, you can dramatically change a room with these products."

Linda Laban
linda.laban@metro.us

WallPops by Jonathan Adler Geo Circles, $18 per set

Sanctuary room panel, $20 for four pieces

Stained glass decals, $18

Have some fun with:

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- **Room panels:** Add a few degrees of separation. These panels hang from a ceiling as a room partition, or from a window as an alternative to blinds and curtains. "These are lightweight and easy to hang. They define a space, or can be used on a wall to add dimension," Berberian says.
- **Window film:** They're available in privacy film or decorative stained glass. "Use in a room with a window where you don't want a curtain, but want privacy," suggests Berberian. "The film can take up a whole window or just partial. The stained glass gives a very traditional look and is so expressive, but affordable."
- **Stained glass applique corners:** "These can be used on windows, mirrors or cabinet corners," says Berberian. "There are no right or wrongs — use wherever you need a nice accent."

Chandeliers

The finishing touch: bejeweled or fun chandeliers that fit over a standard fitting (the light bulb should not exceed 40 watts). "I've seen chandeliers over the years and really wanted to do a fun, trendy line," says Berberian. "These add a little glitz to a staid area. It can be whimsical or elegant and it serves a purpose — lighting."

Posh chandelier, $31

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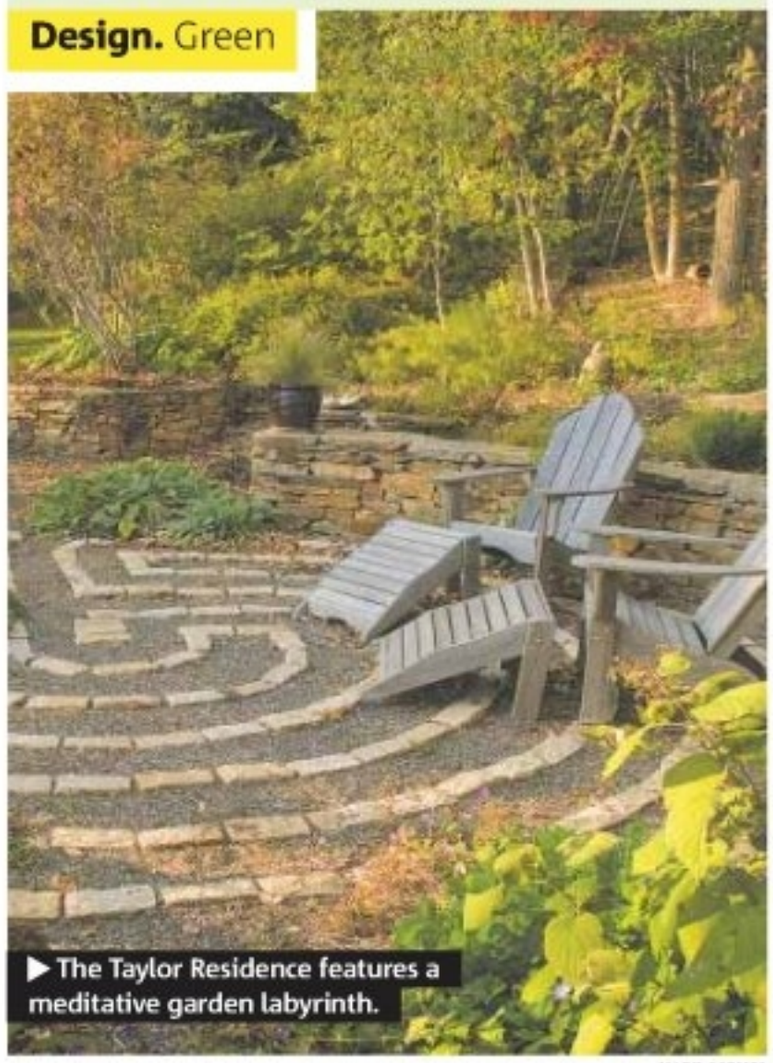
▶ All of the products on these two pages — including these WallPops by Jonathan Adler Elephant Paisley ($18 per set) — are available at www.wallpopscom.

Design. Green



▶ The Taylor Residence features a meditative garden labyrinth.

MARK CORMEL

Local project earns green certification

Four construction projects nationwide have been certified by the Sustainable Sites Initiative, and we've got one of them. The Taylor Residence in Kennett Square, a former dairy farm, boasts an innovative water-management technique that earned it top honors in the realm of sustainable design, construction and maintenance. It was one of 150 projects that participated in SITES' two-year pilot program. METRO

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Emergency medicine is about three things: compassion, skilled care and speed. You'll find these at Chestnut Hill Hospital. The experienced E.R. physicians and the entire team are committed to working diligently to have you initially seen by a clinical professional* within 30 minutes of your arrival. If you need an E.R. fast, try our fast E.R. Once you do, you won't want to go anywhere else. Visit us online at ChestnutHillHealth.com to view our average E.R. wait time.

CHESTNUT HILL HOSPITAL

UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK

Only Top Performer on Key Quality Measures™ in Philadelphia for two years (The Joint Commission 2010 & 2011)
Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology (American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists 2012)
Primary Stroke Center (The Joint Commission 2011)

*Clinical professional is defined as a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.